

# Overview of Broadband Funds

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Program	Amount	Notes
NTIA Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (Infrastructure)	\$3.9 Billion	20% non-federal match
NTIA State Broadband Data & Development Grant	\$350 Million	Implementation of S.1492
NTIA TOP Sustainable Broadband Adoption Grant	\$250 Million	Intended to fund innovative programs that will increase demand for and adoption for bb
NTIA TOP Public Computing Center	\$200 Million	Intended to increase availability of computers at sites like libraries and community colleges
USDA RUS Distance Learning, Telemedicine, & BB Grant	\$2.5 Billion	75% of area in each project funded must be rural
Total	\$7.2 Billion	



# NTIA BTOP Program Goals

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1. Begin to close the broadband gap across America.
2. Stimulate investment by requiring companies that take federal money to invest their own funds as well.
3. Create jobs.
4. Take steps toward ensuring that (public safety) schools, universities, libraries and community centers, job training centers and hospitals have high-speed access.
5. Encourage demand for broadband.

Paraphrased from Rick Wade, Senior Advisor and Acting Chief of Staff, US Department of Commerce

# Eligible Entities of BTOP Funds

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- ▶ (A) be a State or political subdivision thereof, the District of Columbia, a territory or possession of the United States, an Indian tribe (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450(b)) or native Hawaiian organization;
- ▶ (B) a nonprofit—
  - (i) foundation,
  - (ii) corporation,
  - (iii) institution, or
  - (iv) association; or
- ▶ (C) any other entity, including a broadband service or infrastructure provider, that the Assistant Secretary **finds by rule to be in the public interest**. In establishing such rule, the Assistant Secretary shall to the extent practicable promote the purposes of this section in a technologically neutral manner;

# Grant Considerations

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*If awarded, will the project:*

- ▶ (A) increase the **affordability** of, and **subscriptions** to, service to the greatest population of users in the area;
- ▶ (B) provide the **greatest broadband speed** possible to the greatest population of users in the area;
- ▶ (C) **enhance** service for **health care** delivery, **education**, or **children** to the greatest population of users in the area;
- ▶ (D) **not result** in unjust enrichment as a result of support for **non-recurring costs** through another Federal program for service in the area; and
- ▶ consider whether the applicant is a **socially and economically disadvantaged small business**

# USDA RUS Funding Overview

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- ▶ 75% of the area served by a project receiving funding **shall be in a rural area** without sufficient access to high-speed service to facilitate rural economic development.
- ▶ That priority for awarding such funds shall be given to project applications for broadband systems that will deliver end users a **choice of more than one service provider**.
- ▶ That priority for awarding funds made available under this paragraph shall be given to projects that provide service to the **highest proportion of rural residents that do not have access to broadband service**.
- ▶ That **priority** shall be given for project applications from **borrowers or former borrowers** under Title II of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 and for project applications that include such borrowers or former borrowers.

# Timing of Grant Funds

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- ▶ NTIA

- ▶ 3 Rounds

- ▶ April – June, 2009

- ▶ October – December, 2009

- ▶ April – June, 2010

- ▶ RUS

- ▶ At least 3 NOFAs (notice of funding availability)

- ▶ 60-90 days following comment period